

## Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAM-01 /076 W

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P 051523Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2418

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS PRETORIA 2943

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SF, US

SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UP ON OWEN "INVASION" STORY

REF: PRETORIA 2893

AUGUST 5 JOHANNESBURG STAR CARRIES FOLLOW-UP TO  
WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT KEN OWEN'S STORY STATING  
SECRETARY KISSINGER EXPECTS SOUTH AFRICA TO BE  
INVADED WITHIN FEW YEARS. ARTICLE REPORTS DEPT.  
DENIAL OF COMMENT, BUT STATES THAT CONGRESSMAN CLAIR  
BURGENER CONFIRMED SUBSTANCE OF ALLEGED COMMENT.  
TEXT FOLLOWS:

1. "A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE YESTERDAY  
DENIED THE SECRETARY OF STATE, DR. HENRY KISSINGER, HAD  
TOLD A BREAKFAST MEETING OF AMERICAN CONGRESSMEN THAT HE  
EXPECTED SOUTH AFRICA TO BE INVADED FROM THE NORTH IN A  
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FEW YEARS.

2. "THE DENIAL WAS ISSUED AFTER CONSULTATION WITH DR. KISSINGER AND AFTER A SEARCH OF STATE DEPARTMENT RECORDS FAILED TO TURN UP A REFERENCE TO THE COMMENT, THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

3. " BUT RELIABLE SOURCES CONTINUED TO INSIST THAT DR. KISSINGER HAD MADE THE REMARK, AND THE SUBSTANCE OF HIS COMMENT WAS CONFIRMED BY CONGRESSMAN CLAIR BURGNER OF CALIFORNIA.

4. "THE CONGRESSMAN, A FIRST-TERM REPUBLICAN, RAISED THE QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN WITH DR. KISSINGER, THE SOURCES SAID.

5. "ASKED TO CONFIRM DR. KISSINGER'S STATEMENT, CONGRESSMAN BURGNER SAID DR. KISSINGER DID HAVE FEARS OF SUCH AN INVASION, BUT THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DAMAGING TO QUOTE HIM.

6. "CONGRESSMAN BURGNER  
PLEADED FOR SUPPRESSION OF  
DR. KISSINGER'S COMMENT, BUT HE MADE NO ATTEMPT TO  
DENY IT. ON THE CONTRARY, HE SAID: 'DR. KISSINGER  
DOES HAVE SOME FEAR OF INVASION FROM THE NORTH, BUT HE  
DOESN'T KNOW THE AREA VERY WELL. I DON'T SHARE HIS FEARS.'

7. "THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S BLAND DENIAL OF THE COMMENT  
IS NOT SURPRISING. IN THE VIEW OF VETERAN OBSERVERS  
HERE THE REMARK, COMING FROM SO EMINENT AN OFFICIAL,  
WAS SO OUTRAGEOUS A STATEMENT ABOUT A SUPPOSEDLY FRIENDLY  
COUNTRY THAT THERE WAS LITTLE ALTERNATIVE.

8. "WHAT IS QUESTIONABLE IS WHETHER THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE ACTUALLY HOLDS SO PESSIMISTIC A VIEW OF SOUTH  
AFRICA'S FUTURE, OR WHETHER HE WAS MERELY TRYING TO  
CUT OFF DISCUSSION OF SOUTH AFRICAN AFFAIRS."  
BOWDLER

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